

VERY IMPORTANT.

The Battle at Sharpsburg Re-commenced Yesterday and Began with Great Fury.

THE FIGHTING TERRIFIC.

The Way Stonewall Jackson Reinforced Lee.

The Rebels Surrounded and Out of Ammunition.

The Great Rebel Invading Army Annihilated.

The Rebel Generals Longstreet Killed and D. H. Hill Captured.

The Pennsylvanians Rushing to the Border to Inflict the Finishing Blow.

Five Hundred Rebel Dead Buried by Our Troops on the Field.

STILL ANOTHER GREAT BATTLE.

Important Victory at Centreville, Maryland.

CALL FOR SURGEONS.

Evacuation of Leesburg, Va., by the Rebels, &c., &c., &c.

IMPORTANT BATTLE AT CENTREVILLE.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, 1862. Wounded officers who arrived here to-night from Western Maryland say that when they left, at seven o'clock this morning, the battle commenced at Burkittsville, which is about two miles from Centreville.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 17, 1862. There is an apparently well founded rumor that a great battle took place to-day at Centreville (Maryland, not Virginia), on Kittocan creek, which resulted in our success.

THE BATTLES AT SHARPSBURG, MD.

THE REPORTS FROM HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 17, 1862. At Hagerstown, this morning, heavy firing was constantly heard in the direction of Sharpsburg, but no definite information from that quarter had been received.

It is supposed that the rebels are making a most desperate push to reach Williamsport and get across the Potomac.

A Union scout who left the battle field at eleven o'clock this morning had reached Hagerstown. He reports that the fighting has been perfectly terrific.

The rebels have been desperately hard pressed by our army.

A force has been detached from the Union army to destroy the Williamsport bridge, or to block the ferry over the Potomac at that point.

The rebels are supposed to be retreating.

The battle fought yesterday, between Sharpsburg and Middletown, closed without a definite result.

No firing has been heard from Hagerstown since four o'clock yesterday.

Stragglers coming into Hagerstown report that General Longstreet had been killed and that the rebels had been surrounded.

The stragglers also say that the ammunition and provisions of the rebels have run completely out.

A despatch from Harrisburg to Governor Curtin states that the battle at Sharpsburg recommenced early this morning, and raged with the greatest fury up to a quarter to ten A. M.

Our latest advices from Harrisburg say that the State troops are pushing forward to the border.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 17.—P. M.

This has been an eventful day in Maryland, and at the latest advices everything was favorable.

The rebel General Longstreet was killed, and the rebel General Hill is a prisoner.

In the battle to-day, our right wing rested on Sharpsburg and our left this side of Kittocan creek, near Portersville. The rebels are falling back to Harper's Ferry, much worried and dispirited.

The wounded are arriving at Hagerstown.

The bridge reported destroyed by the Union forces, was the canal bridge at or near Williamsport. The destruction of this bridge is of great importance, as it impedes the rebels from bringing up supplies.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 17.—Evening.

Reports just come in here state that the whole rebel army has been driven this way, and are retreating to Hagerstown.

Longstreet is reported captured, and D. H. Hill killed.

Ten thousand Pennsylvania militia will meet the foe at Hagerstown to invade Pennsylvania backwaters.

A severe engagement occurred yesterday be-

tween our army and the rebels near Sharpsburg, in which the enemy were well thrashed, with terrific slaughter.

Five hundred of their dead were buried by us as early as nine A. M. to-day, and the work was still going on.

This morning the battle recommenced at five o'clock, near Gettysville. Jackson joined Lee's forces at Catocin creek, while our forces were reinforced by thirty thousand men from Washington. Jackson's reinforcements to Lee are reported at forty thousand men.

Up to my last advices victory illuminated our standards, and the impression prevails at Hagerstown that the whole rebel army of Virginia is annihilated.

Confidence prevails here, and enthusiastic admiration of McClellan and the army.

We have undoubtedly won great and decisive victories both yesterday and to-day.

All the facts I previously telegraphed you have not, however, been fully confirmed up to this moment.

Among our trophies are whole batteries and thousands of small arms and prisoners.

The rebellion is virtually subdued.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 17.—10 P. M.

A great battle has been fought, and we are victorious. The carnage on both sides was awful.

General Longstreet was wounded and taken prisoner.

Despatches just received at headquarters from Hagerstown say:—

We have achieved a glorious victory. Longstreet is not killed, but is wounded and a prisoner.

General Hooker was wounded in the foot. No particulars are received.

THE REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, 1862.

It is credited here that a battle commenced yesterday afternoon in the vicinity of Sharpsburg, continuing until nine P. M. Our army rested for the night where the last of yesterday's fight left them, and expected to renew the engagement at daylight this morning.

The above facts are gathered from non-official sources.

Colonel Miles' loss before his surrender is believed to be less than one hundred. A. P. Hill was left in command there to gather up the spoils.

At five o'clock yesterday Jackson marched a large part of his force out of Harper's Ferry on the Winchester road.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Evening.

After another day of terrible anxiety, from the intelligence that a grand battle was in progress upon the Upper Potomac, the loyal hearts of the people beat high from the information just received of another, and perhaps a decisive victory, of the army of Gen. McClellan over the concentrated forces of the rebel government.

From what is known here it appears that the rebels determined to make a stand in the neighborhood of Sharpsburg, and all their forces were concentrated there at a point east of Antietam creek, and probably at the intersection of the roads leading from Middletown to Sharpsburg and Rohersville and Williamsport.

It is evident that the whole rebel force was combined at this battle. The forces under Hill which were at Harper's Ferry were withdrawn suddenly from that point yesterday, to participate in this engagement, and even those who were at Leesburg were marched rapidly in the direction of Sharpsburg yesterday morning, at which time the rebel engineers were surveying the hills in the locality where it is presumed the battle was fought, with a view to the erection of batteries.

It is evident that General McClellan was pressing General Lee to the river in such a manner that his army cannot much longer sustain itself, unless relieved from the other side. Its crossing in the face of such a determined pressure, is simply impossible, and the events of to-day and to-morrow are likely to indicate the success or total failure of the campaign.

At three o'clock this afternoon intelligence was received that since half-past five o'clock this morning the fiercest and most sanguinary battle of the whole war had been in progress. All the corps d'armee which General McClellan had taken with him to Frederick were massed at the point indicated, and the engagement is believed to have been between the whole of the two armies.

There is reason to suppose that the losses on each side have been very great, and the arrangement for wounded men to be sent to Rohersville immediately are larger than have ever before been made at any time.

Information has been received that General McClellan destroyed the aqueduct at the mouth of the Antietam creek, and the bridge across that creek upon the road leading to Sharpsburg, thus cutting off the retreat of the rebels in the direction of Shepherdstown.

Later reports from Hagerstown state that this afternoon the rebels were retreating in great disorder, and that subsequently heavy and rapid firing was heard in the direction of Williamsport, which induces the belief that General McClellan has pursued the retreating rebels to that point, and that they made a stand there to cover their passage across the Potomac.

Reconnoissances made by Col. Davies' cavalry, who made the dash for Toward's Cavalry Junction from Frederickburg, and is now under the command of Gen. Heintzelman, show that since Friday last the rebels have evacuated Leesburg, and that a force of ten thousand men, with thirty pieces of artillery, and a supply train of about two miles in length, has gone in the direction of Harper's Ferry.

Information has been received here, which, however, is not deemed altogether reliable, that a large rebel force was marching northward upon the other side of the Bull Run Mountains. Measures have been promptly taken to ascertain how much truth there may be in the report.

A gentleman of this city, who is thoroughly conversant with the region about Sharpsburg,

THE BATTLES OF YESTERDAY.

Scene of Operations on the Potomac from Sharpsburg to Centreville.



says that the Potomac can be forded at Shepherdstown, at the Antietam creek, at Dam No. 4, and at Harper's Ferry.

A letter received here to-night from Lieutenant Russell, of the Ninety-sixth Pennsylvania regiment, states their loss at the battle of the Pass of the Blue Ridge to be one hundred and fifty. Major Martin and Lieutenant Dougherty were killed.

THE REPORTS FROM BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 17, 1862.

The following is from the Baltimore American:—The cannonading on Tuesday afternoon was very heavy, and continued, with some intermission, long after night. This (Wednesday) morning it was resumed at daybreak with a violence and rapidity that, the people of the vicinity, who have watched the progress of the five days' contest, say was entirely unprecedented.

It was one continuous rattle of heavy guns, and, from the position I occupied, General McClellan's right appeared to rest on Sharpsburg and his left on Catocin creek. The rebels destroyed a bridge over this creek yesterday, but General McClellan had it rebuilt during the night. The position occupied by General McClellan seemed to be advantageous. One of his guns seemed to be stationed on a range of hills, from the apex of which the little white clouds of smoke rolled up in the distance, marking distinctly the line of conflict.

The reports were so rapid as to be without intermission, and sometimes three or four reports would strike the ear at the same moment.

This cannonading commenced at daylight, and was heard distinctly up to one o'clock, causing the impression that the great battle of the campaign was in progress.

The wounded were being carried towards Hagerstown and Boonsboro, so that little could be heard direct from the field in the direction of Middletown.

Those reports that were received, however, were highly favorable, our forces having at the time the best position, and the battle being principally with artillery, in which we have great superiority.

Soldiers who were on the field during Tuesday state that it consisted entirely of artillery on that day. It commenced early in the morning, and continued till late at night, General McClellan having at the close of the day driven them about half a mile, and obtained an elevated position, from which he was operating to-day. The fight yesterday was, however, sharply contested by the enemy, and it was only at the close of the day that the slight advantage mentioned was gained.

The rumors afloat were various, among which it was said that Jackson and Hill were again crossing the Potomac in the rear of General Lee, by way of Shepherdstown, thus coming back from Harper's Ferry to the succor of their commander. This would be practicable, and the rapid manner in which they evacuated Harper's Ferry would seem to indicate their sudden appearance at some point where least expected.

THE REPORTS FROM FREDERICK.

FREDERICK, Md., Sept. 17, 1862.

A deserter—a sergeant major of an Alabama regiment—came in last night, who reports the

advance. The forces were then moved cautiously up the road, and took positions behind the hills, where they remained through the night.

A fight is going on at the front, and heavy cannonading is plainly heard here.

Colonel Geo. L. Beal and Lieutenant Colonel Jas. Pillsbury, of the Tenth Maine regiment, have been brought here wounded during the forenoon. The former has flesh wounds in both thighs, not regarded as dangerous, and the latter is seriously wounded in the breast. They represent the battle as very severe, and the fighting on both sides as desperate.

It is reported, but whether correctly or not I have not been able to ascertain, that a large force of the enemy recrossed the river last night into Maryland.

There is a good deal of anxiety here to learn the result of the fight.

CALL FOR SURGEONS.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, 1862.

To Drs. DETMOLD, HALESTED and STONE.—Dr. Letterman telegraphed for surgical aid, and says the need is urgent. Will twenty of your best surgeons proceed to Rohersville, via Frederick, and give aid to Surgeon Letterman? W. A. HAMMOND, Surgeon General.

These disposed to volunteer in answer to the above call are invited to assemble this morning, at eleven o'clock, at the house of Dr. Detmold, 104 Ninth street.

Dr. DETMOLD, Dr. STONE, Dr. HALESTED, Executive Committee. Surgeon Letterman is the Medical Director on General McClellan's staff.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, 1862.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES WANTED.—ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED.

Demand was to-day made from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac for surgeons and medical supplies, and Surgeon General Hammond has accordingly sent from Washington, and caused to be sent from the Eastern cities, first class surgeons to the number of one hundred. He has also dispatched thither a large train of medical supplies.

Immense hospital accommodations are being provided in and around Washington. The Harwood hospital, containing about seven hundred patients, and situated on the Potomac, is already accommodated with patients, and Dr. Mitchell has been ordered to enlarge its capacity to the number of three thousand beds. Dr. Luckey is preparing the Second Cavalry barracks on Seventh street, for the reception of one thousand patients, and Dr. Webster of the Douglas hospital is engaged in enlarging the capacity of that institution to an equivalent number of beds.

THE BATTLES OF SUNDAY.

THE FIRST FIGHT OF THE DAY.

On Sunday, September 14, a portion of General Burnside's corps, about seven thousand in all, engaged the rebels on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge, where it is crossed by the old national road to Hagerstown, about five miles west of Middletown, and drove them over the mountain.

For so short a fight, for, though the artillery pounded away at long range, and rather at random for some hours, the real fight occupied but a little while in the afternoon.

OUR LOSS.

was about one hundred and fifty killed and eight hundred wounded. The rebel loss is fully equal to it, though we might have expected it to be less, from the advantageous nature of the ground they held. Several hundred prisoners were taken.

DEATH OF GENERAL RENO.

Major General Reno, who commanded on the field, was mortally wounded by a rifle ball in the right breast, and died on the stretcher while being taken to the rear. As he was not actually in the front of battle when hit, it was doubtless a random shot.

THE FIELD OF BATTLE.

From Middletown the national road runs in a westerly direction through a rather rough country, and strikes the abrupt rise of the mountain at a little more than three miles from the town. Thence it becomes very steep and stony. In places the hill rises considerably above the road on either side, and it is rather a gulch than a road, high and rough as the country is at this point, it is fenced, and near the summit of the mountain, at a point where the sides of the road are considerably higher than the road itself, a good stone wall runs around from the road to the right hand, at right angles, and crosses the field to a wood. A short distance beyond a lane leaves the road from the left hand side, also at a right angle, and on either side of this lane was a low stone wall, with one rail above it. This spot, intersected by the road and the three stone walls, was the scene of the battle.

THE STRENGTH OF THE POSITION.

From an early hour in the day twenty-pounders on a ridge below the mountain had shelled the various parts of the mountain side, where the rebels were supposed to be, and at about nine A. M. a portion of General Cox's division went forward as skirmishers and drove the rebels from all the lower parts of the mountain. This was followed by a very considerable artillery duel, in which the rebels were worsted and had some guns completely silenced.

GENERAL SCUMMON'S BRIGADE ADVANCES.

At about two P. M. Gen. Scummon's brigade—the Twelfth, Twenty-third and Thirty-sixth Ohio regiments—was sent forward up the mountain, and deployed in the rough ground to the right of the road, while the Forty-fifth Pennsylvania was deployed to the left of it. At some distance to the left of the Forty-fifth the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania was formed. At the same time

THE REBELS LAID DOWN BEHIND THE STONE WALLS.

We have described, while behind the two walls to the left of the road they had posted a battery, which played upon our men as they advanced with great effect.

OUR TROOPS DASH UP THE HILL.

Nothing daunted, our brave fellows pushed forward up the hill and over the difficult ground in the most gallant style. To the left of the road.

Our heavy artillery PENNSYLVANIA CARRIED THE POSITION, though they lost very heavily. On the other side, the Ohio boys were repulsed in their first advance, and were driven; but they were soon rallied, returned to the charge, and carried the position.

THE NATURE OF THE FIGHT.

The dead lay terribly thick around this point, and also down the lane where the Pennsylvania fought.

COL. FERRERO'S REGIMENT RELIEVES THE WEARIED FORCES. At nightfall the Ohio boys were relieved by the Fifty-first New York, Fifty-first Pennsylvania, Twenty-first and Thirty-fifth Massachusetts, Col. Edward Ferrero in command, who held the summit of the mountain.

THE REBELS RESUME THE FIGHT, BUT ARE BEATEN.

Soon after dark the rebels made a determined attempt to regain their position, but were driven back by Colonel Ferrero, who remained in command on the field and held the point all night.

THE SEVENTEENTH MICHIGAN.

A new regiment, was engaged with a part of the enemy's force in the woods, and behaved with great steadiness. They found an opportunity to employ the stone wall tactics, and delivered their fire into a rebel regiment from behind such a barrier with deadly effect.

THE REBEL FORCE ENGAGED.

At this point was part of the division of General D. H. Hill, and part of the division of General Longstreet. Prisoners from the latter division say that they were brought eight miles on the double quick to participate in this battle.

THE SECOND FIGHT OF THE DAY.

This fight took place at Campion's Pass, on the Catocin Mountain, about five miles south of the scene of General Burnside's victory, and near the town of Burkittsville.

OUR FORCE.

But little over five thousand troops were actually engaged on our side, comprising Slocum's division of Franklin's corps.

THE REBELS ENGAGED.

was principally from the division of General Lee. It was a brief and brilliant battle, and resulted in a signal success for us, as the enemy was driven from the town on the eastern slope of the Catocin completely over the

mountain, and lost upwards of four hundred men killed and wounded and five hundred taken prisoners.

OUR LOSS. was about two hundred and fifty killed and wounded. No missing.

REMARKS. This place is situated about four miles southwest of Middletown, and at the foot of the Catocin Mountain. It is a pleasant village of neat brick houses, and has a handsome church. General Franklin arrived near this place with his corps on Sunday afternoon, and General Slocum's division was immediately moved forward.

REMARKS. The mountain rises in easy slopes, which are cleared and cultivated, and crossed here and there by rail fences and stone walls. Some portions of the first slope are rather sparsely wooded. As the greater heights are reached the wood becomes more dense and the mountain side very precipitous.

THE ADVANCE OF BARTLETT'S BRIGADE. The Fifth Maine and Ninety-sixth Pennsylvania—were first sent forward as skirmishers. They skirmished through the village and up the lower slopes, driving the enemy's pickets before them. On the slopes they were supported by the Sixteenth and Twenty-seventh New York, also of Bartlett's brigade. This force steadily advanced up the mountain, fighting all the way, until the enemy's main body was found and his position correctly ascertained.

THE ENEMY'S POSITION. Never was there a place better adapted for defence than the eastern slope of Catocin Mountain at Campion's Gap. The roadway is narrow and winds up the mountain in long reaches which could be so swept by grape-shot that nothing could live there. It would be madness to attempt an advance up the road. Apart from the road the side of the mountain is so steep and rocky that it is only with great difficulty one can climb it. The enemy had availed himself of every advantage of this position. At the foot of the steep part of the hill his infantry was posted behind stone walls, as it was also on other parts of the mountain, and the only point at which we could attempt to scale the place was swept by eight pieces of artillery.

THE PREPARATION TO THE ATTACK.

Notwithstanding the desperate nature of the undertaking it was determined to attack without delay, and Newton's brigade, also of Slocum's division, was ordered up to strike the main blow, while Kearney's old brigade (the First, Second, Third and Fourth New Jersey regiments) under command of Colonel Talbot, was ordered to support General Newton.

GENERAL BROOKS' VERMONT BRIGADE.

Simultaneously with this movement General Brooks' Vermont brigade, of Smith's division, was sent to strike the mountain, and advance upon the extreme right flank of the enemy. General Brooks' men had a long way to go, and thus the battle was a simple, straightforward front attack by Slocum's division, with a contingency on the rebel flank in case they met with great difficulty.

AS NEWTON'S BRIGADE MOVED FORWARD.

There was not a struggle to be seen, all seemed equally eager for the fray, and intent only on victory. It was observed by old campaigners present that they had never seen men go into action in a better spirit. Indeed, throughout the whole battle nothing could have been better than the disposition shown by the men to fight.

THE OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE ROAD OF ADVANCE.

In this advance the obstructions were of great advantage to the rebels. Six rail fences and two stone walls were counted in the line of advance of Newton's brigade. All of these had to be crossed, and the enemy played furiously from their position in the mountain. The stone walls were all held by the enemy's infantry, and from every one they were driven literally at the point of the bayonet.

A CHARGE AFTER THE REBELS.

Soon after this advance began, General Newton, seeing that the rebels were well started, ordered forward the other two brigades of Slocum's division, to advance with his own. Onward they pushed, the enemy flying and fighting until they reached the foot of the steep declivity, where he apparently expected to make his best defence. How such a position could ever have been carried it is scarcely possible to conceive.

THE PREPARATION OF THE ASSET.

After the battle was found that merely to climb the precipitous side of the hill was a work of no small difficulty; yet our gallant fellows struggled up with glorious courage, while the foe above poured down upon them a perfect storm of balls, drove the foe from the very summit of the hill, and sent him flying down the farther side in one wild stampede.

CAPTURE OF COLORS AND PRISONERS.

Large numbers of prisoners were taken, especially from the brigades of Generals Howell Cobb and Semmes, which came up to the field last. Nearly the whole of the Cobb Legion were taken, with their colors, inscribed "Cobb Legion—in the name of the Lord." The colors of the Sixteenth Virginia regiment were also taken.

THE FIELD OF BATTLE.

presented a much less torn-to-pieces appearance than any other field we ever saw. This may be accounted for by the fact that artillery was not much used by the enemy, and not at all by us. The precipitous and stony slope of the hill was very thickly strewn with the rebel dead.

We append a list of killed and wounded. It is complete for the First, Second, Third and Fourth New Jersey regiments, the Fifth Maine and the Sixteenth New York. The names have been gathered from the field, as far as the reports having yet been made, and the complete list of losses will not give a great many more names than we give.

(The list will be found arranged in alphabetical form in another part of this day's paper.—Ed. Herald.)

THE REBELS DROVE FROM THEIR GROUND.

The enemy had to abandon one of their guns, which fell into our hands. It was only by the skin of their teeth that they saved the remaining pieces, such was the suddenness and boldness of the charge made upon them by our men.

REMOVING THE WOUNDED FROM THE FIELD.

after the close of the action made one of the most impressive pictures of the day's fight. The road leading to the Gap was filled with long and winding lines of ambulances, young and returning from the field. As fast as the men could be placed in the ambulances they were removed to the principal private houses in Burkittsville and their wounds dressed. Many had to remain where they fell all night, and the impossibility of attending to them promptly doomed too many a noble soldier his life.

THE CITIZENS OPEN THEIR HOUSES AS HOSPITALS.

It is worthy of special mention that not a citizen of the town was called upon to surrender his house to be used as a hospital but did so with the utmost cheerfulness. After the wounded were brought in the kindest attentions were offered by neighbors.

SURGEONS WERE VERY ALL NIGHT.

Among those most actively employed I remember seeing Dr. Oakley, First New Jersey; Dr. Matamore, Seventeenth New York, and Dr. Stewart, Twenty-seventh New York. Dr. Robinson, Acting Medical Director of General Slocum's division, had the supervisory management. The most painful surgical operations were submitted to with scarcely a murmur. It is understood that

THE WOUNDED WILL BE SENT TO FREDERICK.

where, it is said, arrangements have been made for the care of a thousand patients.

THE REBEL WOUNDED.

were taken mainly to the Baptist church in Burkittsville, which has been converted into a temporary hospital. As good attention is given them as to our own wounded. Many are surprised at the extreme kindness shown them, and they evidently did not expect it.

THE BATTLE FIELD, AFTER THE FIGHT.

I will now describe the battle field after the fight. My heart and pen turn with horror from the terrible scenes presented. Bodies of the dead lay about, in every direction and in every imaginable position. Here fell an officer with sword in hand urging on his men. One was drinking from his canteen as the fatal bullet penetrated his brain; another in the act of discharging his piece, and others in the act of loosing their muskets. Most of the killed were shot in the head. It is difficult to say whether it is owing to the extreme accuracy of our men in taking aim, or to the position of the enemy fleeing over the rough summit of the mountain.

GENERAL HOWELL COBB.

who commanded a brigade in General McClellan's division, led his brigade in the action. He is said to have lost a leg.

THE COBB LEGION.

was commanded by a brother of the renowned Howell Cobb, and was one of the wounded officers, was most bravely cut up. But few came out of the action alive.

(CONTINUED ON EIGHTH PAGE.)